

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 04663 302248Z

44

ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ADP-00 AEC-11 AF-10 ARA-16

CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-11 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NASA-04

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C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 4663

DISTO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: CCD: ARGENTINE VIEWS ON DISARMAMENT FORUMS AT NEXT UNGA;
WDC SPECIAL COMMITTEE; UNDC; RELATIONS WITH PRC

1. ACTING HEAD OF ARGENTINE DEL (BERASATEGUI), WHO HAS
RECENTLY RETURNED FROM CONSULTATIONS IN BUENOS AIRES AND WHO
EXPECTS TO GO TO NEW YORK FOR UNGA IN OCT, DESCRIBED TO US
DEPUTY REP (NEIDLE) ARGENTINE
THINKING AND PLANS FOR UPCOMING UNGA REGARDING
CLUSTER OF ISSUES AFFECTING DISARMAMENT FORUMS. (HE
SPECIALLY REQUESTED THAT HIS STATEMENTS BE HELD IN
STRICT CONFIDENCE.) MAIN ARGENTINE PURPOSE IS TO WORK
TOWARD ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW DISARMAMENT NEGOTIATING
FORUM THAT WOULD INCLUDE ALL FIVE NUCLEAR POWERS. IF
PRC RESPONDS POSITIVELY TO IDEA OF RECONSTITUTING WDC SPEICAL
COMMITTEE, WHICH IS NOW BEING DICUSSED INFORMALLY IN NEW YORK,
ARGENTINES WILL GO ALONG, ASSUMING PRC INTENDS TO COOPERATE
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 04663 302248Z

IN MEANINGFUL MANNER. BERASATEGUI BELIEVES HOWEVER, IT

IS UNLIKELY THAT PRC WILL AGREE TO COOPERATE WITH NEW SPECIAL COMMITTEE BECAUSE OF VERY BAD FEELING LEFT WITH CHINESE AS RESULT OF EARLIER SOVIET MANEUVERS. (BERASATEGUI KNEW OF GENERAL THRUST OF IRANIAN APPROACH IN NY; HOWEVER, HE DID NOT KNOW PRECISE LANGUAGE OF RESOLUTION BEING CONSIDERED, AS DEMONSTRATED BY FACT THAT HE REMAINED U.S. DEPUTY THAT SPECIAL COMMITTEE'S MANDATE TO CONSIDER "RELATED PROBLEMS" COULD PERMIT IT TO EVOLVE INTO A NEGOTIATING BODY. HE SHOWED NO AWARENESS THAT IRANIANS INTEND TO DELETE THIS CLAUSE IN THE NEXT GA'S RESOLUTION AS REPORTED IN USUN 2929; U.S. DEPUTY DID NOT INFORM HIM OF THIS.)

2. IF PRC IS NEGATIVE OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE, ARGENTINES INTEND TO PRESS CHINESE PRIVATELY ON DESIRABILITY OF FORMING A NEW NEGOTIATING BODY OF NOT MORE THAN ABOUT 35 MEMBERS, INCLUDING ALL NUCLEAR POWERS, ORGANIZED ON DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES (I.E., WITHOUT US/SOVIET CO-CHAIRMANSHIP), BUT RETAINING DESIREABLE FEATURES OF CCD LIKE CARRYING OUT BUSINESS ON CONSENSUS RATHER THAN VOTING BASIS. BERASATEGUI IS ALSO NOT OPTIMISTIC THAT ARGENTINE DEL WILL BE SUCCESSFUL IN BRINGING ABOUT ESTABLISHMENT OF BRAND NEW NEGOTIATING FORUM BY END OF UPCOMING UNGA, WHICH IS MAXIMUM OBJECTIVE. IF ARGENTINES CAN SUCCEED, HOWEVER, DURING UNGA (OR IF NEW SPECIAL COMMITTEE ELICITS A PROMISE OF ACTIVE PRC COOPERATION), ARGENTINE DEL MIGHT THEN BE IN A POSITION TO RESIST A MOVE TO HOLD A MEETING OF THE UNDC NEXT YEAR, WHICH THEY DO NOT WANT FOR ITS OWN SAKE. (BERASATEGUI COMMENTS THAT ARGENTINES WILL HAVE TO VOTE AGAINST MORE RESOLUTIONS AT A UNDC THAT EVEN THE US.)

3. HOWEVER, ASSUMING THAT THEY HAVE NOT BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN BRINGING ABOUT THE NEW NEGOTIATING BODY DURING THE GA AND THAT THERE IS OVERWHELMING PRESSURE FOR CONVENING THE UNDC, ARGENTINES WILL GO ALONG WITH A UNDC, HAVING IN MIND THAT A UNDC MEETING NEXT YEAR WILL PROVIDE THEM FURTHER OPPORTUNITY TO WORK BEHIND THE SCENES TO ESTABLISH A NEW NEGOTIATING BODY.

4. ASKED WHETHER ARGENTINES HAD ANY REASON NOW TO BELIEVE
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CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 GENEVA 04663 302248Z

PRC WOULD BE MORE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN MULTILATERAL DISARMAMENT NEGOTIATIONS IN THE NEAR FUTURE THAN THEY WERE AT THE LAST UNGA, BERASATEGUI SAID THAT ARGENTINES DID NOT. HOWEVER, HE REPORTED, ASKING THAT THIS BE HELD IN STRICTEST CONFIDENCE, THAT PRC REPS BOTH IN NEW YORK AND GENEVA HAD EXPRESSED PARTICULAR APPRECIATION TO ARGENTINES FOR THEIR STATEMENT LAST APRIL IN THE CCD OPENLY CRITICIZING THE MANNER IN WHICH THE WDC SPECIAL

COMMITTEE HAD BEEN ORGANIZED. BERASATEGUI BELIEVES THAT ARGENTINE PAST PERFORMANCE RE SPECIAL COMMITTEE GIVES ARGENTINA PARTICULARLY GOOD STANDING TP PRESS CHINESE TO PARTICIPATE IN ESTABLISHING A NEW NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE. ARGENTINES PLAN TO STRESS WITH CHINESE THAT THEY WOULD BE FLOUTING DESIRE OF NON-ALIGNED WORLD IF THEY DO NOT PARTICIPATE IN DISARMAMENT NEGOTIATIONS. BERASATEGUI SAID THAT ARGENTINE DEL MIGHT EVEN TELL CHINESE THAT, IF THEY TOOK A COMPLETELY NEGATIVE POSITION ON THIS ENTIRE SUBJECT, ARGENTINE DEL IN NEW YORK MIGHT BE FORCED TO CRITICIZE THEM BLUNTLY IN A UNGA OR FIRST COMMITTEE SPEECH.

5. AS TO CONTINUATION OF CCD MEETINGS, BERASATEGUI HOPES, DESPITE ALL DIFFICULTIES, THAT IT MAY BE POSSIBLE TO ESTABLISH A NEW NEGOTIATING BODY WHICH WILL THEN TAKE OVER FROM CCD. BUT IF THIS IS NOT POSSIBLE, HE BELIEVES PRESSURES FOR UNDC WILL BE VIRTUALLY IRRESISTIBLE AND CCD COULD THEN MEET ONLY FOLLOWING A UNDC NEXT YEAR, ASSUMING, OF COURSE, THAT UNDC HAS NOT ITSELF ESTABLISHED A NEW NEGOTIATING BODY. HE ADVISED THAT A LIMITED ENLARGEMENT OF THE CCD, TO INCLUDE TWO GERMANIES AND A FEW NON-ALIGNED, SHOULD BE APPROACHED WITH GREAT CAUTION. HE BELIEVES THAT ENLARGEMENT WILL NOT, BY ITSELF, AMELIORATE BASIC DISSATISFACTIONS AND IT WILL PROBABLY STILL BE NECESSARY TO HOLD A UNDC BEFORE CCD, ENLARGED OR NOT, COULD RESUME WORK. HE HAD NO DOUBT ARGENTINA WOULD WELCOME PARTICIPATION OF THE GERMANIES AND SEVERAL NON-ALIGNED IN CCD'S WORK IF THIS SHOULD DEVELOP. MILLER

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